ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN, TREASURER,

OVERSEER OF THE POOR,

LIQUOR AGENT,

AND

School Committee,

OF THE

Town of Thornton,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1876.

PLYMOUTH:
J. H. DEARBORN, PRINTER, "JOURNAL OFFICE."
1876.

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REPORT OF SELECTMEN.

The Selectmen of the town of Thornton charge themselves as follows :

Received on notes	$5,249 88
State Bear bounty	12 00
County support of Paupers	176 48
Savings Bank Tax and Literary Fund	154 52
Enoch Gilman for support of F. P. Gilman's wife	63 15
A. Barnard, School Fund	58 62
E. Elliott, liquor keg	1 75
Liquor Agent 1872,	18 99
J. W. Pattee, interest on Taylor fund,	38 20
	$5,773 59

Paid School Agents.

District No.	1, William Merrill,	$124 18
"	2, J. Percival,	106 45
"	3, J. Colby,	42 99
"	4, R. Johnson,	83 26
"	5, S. J. Conner,	112 46
"	6, J. H. Williams,	81 01
"	7, B. F. Merrill,	43 78
"	8, H. F. Durgin,	58 23
"	9, A. P. Wood, Jr.	67 52
"	11, A. H. Clement,	43 70
"	12, B. L. Peaslee,	46 56

Paid School Agents for 1874,	
District No. 1. W. C. Merrill,	57 54
" 4, R. Johnson,	97 22
" 12, B. M. B. Sellingham for 1875,	6 72
" " " 1874,	6 62
" 7, Hiram Merrill, 1874,	15 58
" 9, A. P. Wood, Jr. "	44 89
" 1, Wm. Merrill special School tax for 1873,	7 78
	$1,046 49

Miscellaneous Bills.

Enoch Gilman, work on burying ground fence,	$35 75
" " two sheep killed by dogs,	4 00
Smith Rowe board of help on Covered bridge,	22 50
C. H. Weeks services as constable,	2 00
H. Fifield, services as Auditor,	1 50
M. B. Cone, " "	1 50
A. Lyford, " "	1 50
J. H. Dearborn, printing Town Reports,	27 00
S. Corliss, care of Town House,	6 00
B. W. Sanborn & Co., Books and Blanks,	8 22
C. F. Plummer, school house tax,	12 00
O. F. James, board of Selectmen and Auditors,	15 00
State Tax,	492 00
F. Eaton, County Tax,	437 95
I. H. Wyatt, Bear Bounty,	10 00
J. F. Morrill, board of Selectmen and others,	17 75
" for services Selectman after March 1,	2 25
" money paid out during town business '74	7 50
B. L. Peaslee, going to Plymouth for Coffin,	3 00
J. Johnson, watering trough,	3 00
A. P. Knowles in full on F. P. Gilman bill,	5 00

J. Percival, use of watering trough,	1 50
C. R. Emmons, for work and watering trough,	3 23
R. Ham, damage to ox and work on highway,	25 00
B. Steel, watering trough,	3 00
A. Lyford, watering trough and services as Justice,	6 25
E. Emmons goods delivered to A. P. Knowles for F. P. Gilman,	11 00
C. Cutter, surveying lines between Campton and Thornton,	2 50
Wm. H. Gordon, lumber for burying ground for '72,	11 64
Smith Rowe, watering trough,	3 00
" " for keeping tramps,	7 00
Blair & Burleigh for counsel,	10 00
O. P. Gilman, plank,	4 64
N. Clay, sheep killed by dogs,	5 00
I. H. Wyatt, bear bounty,	10 00
G. R. Tucker, "	10 00
C. H. Weeks goods for F. P. Gilman,	40 77
J. W. Pattee, for sign boards,	12 00
" " " board of Selectmen,	20 28
E. Elliott, money paid doing town business,	28 31
F. A. Barnard, " " "	3 45
J. W. Pattee for services as justice,	9 85
" " money paid out,	1 14
" " moving H. Paige to County Farm and expense to Orford,	15 70
R. Johnson, school house tax,	65 54
	$1,426 22

Town Officer's Bills

E. Elliott services as Selectman and Overseer of Poor	$96 00
F. A. Barnard " " "	58 50
J. W. Pattee	58 35
Lewis Philips Supt School Committee	35 00
O. F. James Treasurer	50 00
J. W. Pattee for services Town Clerk	19 17
	$317 02

Town Pauper Bills.

M. Whiteman for support of M. C. Blake	$41 25
C. H. Weeks goods for Benj. Tucker deliv'd '72	13 75
E. B Holmes expenses carrying G. Hart to County Farm	12 00
Town of Rumney Jane Merrill and child	72 37
Town of Epsum for Morrill Dickey	59 52
L. M. Howe for Mary C. Blake	4 25
A. L. Durgin for Gerusha Hart	2 00
H. H. Constantine carrying H. Boynton to County Farm	14 15
N. Clay for support of H. Paige	42 25
E. Elliot " Anna Paige	9 00
Lewis Kendrick carrying W. H. Merrill to County Farm	3 00
E. Elliott money paid Mary A. Pattee funeral expenses	22 00
E. Emmons goods for Stephen Merrill	20 00
	$315 54

County Pauper Bills

E. Emmons goods delivered to A. P. Payn	$28 50
Arthur Foss support of Stephen Foss	28 00
" " " " "	31 41
C. H. Weeks goods for Benj. Tucker	13 20
E. G. Guilford medical services for Jane Merrill	5 00
" " " " Jacob Benton and family	10 50
Lewis Kendrick for carrying C. Knowles to County Farm	9 00
" " for support of Sarah Knowles	30 00
F. A. Barnard money paid for W. H. Merrill	2 71
E. Dole & Co., cloth for S. Foss	2 40
H. Shores for support of Jane Merrill	20 00
W. R. Boynton " Hannah Boynton	6 00
W. A. Smith medical services	5 25
E. G. Guilford medical services for A. P. Payn,	9 75
E. Ellioti support of Anna Paige	18 00
H. M. Tobine for carrying C. Knowles to Plymouth	2 25
	$221 96

Roads & Bridges 1874.

T. Blaisdell for lumber and stone	$24 40
E. Chase for plank	2 60
M. B. Cone for work	21 92
Daniel Peaslee	7 50
Frank Fox	1 25
C. F. Plummer	15 00
N. S. Woodbury	7 40
O. C. Avery	2 50
J. W. Wallace	1 25

L. Kendrick	6 16
D. M. Boynton	11 95
G. W. Hackett	49 54
J. C. Burleigh	10 30
J. T. Wood	4 00
John Foster	12 46
A. Merrill	24 82
C. P. Sargent	5 00
R. Johnson	5 00
F. Bartlett	8 00
H. M. Tobine	8 84
H. F. Durgin	22 16
W. T. Snow	9 91
T. J. Gilman	10 50
Geo. R. Tucker	3 75
W. C. Merrill for lumber on covered bridge in 1874	4 50
J. T. Clough for work " " "	25 50
H. Gordon " " " "	33 00
N. H. Weeks lumber " " "	90 00
M. S. Brown lumber for bridges	109 97
	$539 18

Roads & Bridges 1875.

S. D. Fadden,	$6 00
G. W. Elliott, lumber and labor on bridge,	10 75
B. L. Peaslee,	9 00
C. Caldon,	2 49
E. T. Whitney, Plank,	1 71
J. Dustin, labor on bridge,	3 75
M. & D. Foss, plank and lumber,	43 13
E. Elliott,	3 00
O. F. James, lumber, Gordon Bridge,	1 80
	$81 63

Paid on Notes.

Merrill Greeley	$ 99 10
Peter Walker	60 00
J. R. Davis	206 80
B. Sanborn on J. Sanborn note	46 63
S. C. Robinson	90 00
S. B. Elliot	21 10
H. L. Johnson	274 23
R. R. Carlton	130 37
J. B. Selingham	1,446 74
G. W. Keniston	2 450 00
H. C. Boynton	6 00
Mary O. Boynton	362 08
A. P. Wood	30 00
A. Keniston	1,80[illegible] 74
A. S. Sanborn	11 00
E. Elliott	665 04
Caroline Tucker	12 00
A. Lyford	211 88
Mahitable Foss	12 00
L. M. Paige	25 00
A. Caldon	16 00
B. M. B. Selington	15 00
J. Moulton	115 95
	$,8110 46

Indebtedness due on Notes.

E. L. Foss	$4,091 00
Phebe Cross	665 00
S. C. Robinson	1,575 00
Peter Walker	1,045 00

A. Lyford	988 00
M. Greeley	2,442 00
Lizzie M. Greeley	1,113 00
Louis Dearborn	23 00
C. E. Dearborn	12 00
E. Elliott	106 00
Mehitable Foss	200 00
F. A. Gordon	59 00
Clark Merrill	593 00
M. R. Peaslee	60 00
Betsey Paige	270 00
M. L. Paige	455 00
E. M. Steel	22 00
Willis Sanborn	37 00
S. J. Woodbury	300 00
John Carlton	119 00
M. J. Hazeltine	43 00
E. J. Foss	453 00
H. E. Hannaford	1,859 00
Arthur Merrill	1,299 00
C. & B. Shute	30 00
George W. Kenıston	837 00
L. G. Lyford	53 00
C. Durgin	107 00
A. P. Wood Jr.	108 00
S. J. Kenisfon	2,087 00
Minnie Elliott	22 00
John T. Clough	163 00
S. A. Homans	374 00
Sarah Steel	559 00
L. E. Boynton	55 00
C. H. Boynton	360 00
Emily Durgin	66 00
Moses Boynton	106 00
H. C. Boynton	106 00
L. M. Paige	82 00
Herod Fifield	424 00

George Jenkins	327 00
R. E. Sanborn	266 00
H. F. Durgin	532 00
H. M. Fifield	54 00
R. C. Sanborn	535 00
C. Shute	148 00
Judith Foss	64 00
Carter Foss	466 00
J. H. Peaslee	1,777 00
B. M. B. Selingham	140 00
L. J. Jackman	6 00
J. R. Selingham	15 00
B. L. Peaslee	656 00
John F. Morrill Guardian	300 00
A. L. Durgin	242 00
S. A. Sellingham	366 00
J. A. Sanborn	146 00
A. P. Wood	560 00
M. D. Way	200 00
A. Caldon	280 00
N. S. Woodbury	193 00
Caroline Tucker	135 00
A. S. Sanborn	280 00
Willie Barker	27 00
Laura A. Paige	26 00
Lizzie H. Paige	26 00
Sebastian S. Paige	262 00
M. B. Woodbury	11 00
Lucy A. Elliott	130 00
Benj. Sanborn	187 00
R. T. Melcher	93 00
S. B. Cone	220 00
Barnard Paige	728 00
C. F. Plummer	137 00
Mary E. Willey	62 00
F. H. Plummer	102 00
Hiram Gordon	163 00

D. G. Southmayd	36 00
L. F. Dolloff	10 00
W. P. Houston	12 00
O Vincent	21 00
E. H. Merrill	112 00
O. F. James	151 00
Nancy Fellows	50 00
O. F. James	32 00
	$33,644 00

ASSETTS.

In collectors hands for 1868	$30 00
" " " 1873	348 24
" " " 1874	336 01
" " " 1875	3,000 00
Due from State Bear bounty	30 00
" County support of Paupers	131 06
In Treasurers hands	1,094 41
Interest due on Taylor Fund	133 16
Cash in Selectmens hands	38 16
	$5,141 04
Amount of liabilities	$33,644 00
Less assets	5,141 04
	$28,502 96

Statement of Taylor Fund.

C. F. Bowen farm	205 00
R. A. Horner	63 17
J. W. Pattee	200 00
N. H. Weeks	265 00
Town of Thornton	312 86
	$1,046 03
School Fund Town of Thornton	$1 312 50

Recapitulation.

Cash in Treasury March 1st, 1875,	$2,201 05
Received by Selectmen,	5,773 59
" of Collectors,	5,178 33
	$13,152 97
School Agents,	$1,046 49
Roads and Bridges, 1874	539 18
" " 1875	81 63
Miscellaneous Bills	1,426 22
Town Officers "	317 02
Town Pauper's Bills	315 54
County Pauper's Bils	221 97
Paid on notes	8,110 46
Cash in Treasury March 1st 1876	1,094 41
Cash to balance	05
	$13,152 97

EPHRAIM ELLIOTT,
FRANK A. BARNARD,
JOHN W. PATTEE,
} *Selectmen of Thornton.*

Treasurer's Report.

From March 1, 1875, *to March* 1, 1876.

Received as follows :

In Treasury March 1st, 1875,	$2,201 05
Received of Selectmen	5,773 59
Received of Moody B. Cone Coll. 1875	2,574 13
" " " 1874	2,033 83
" School House tax in Dist. No. 4	85 62
" Charles H. Weeks Coll. 1873	450 00
" " " " 1872	3 75
" Herod Fifield " 1869	28 00
" Moody B. Cone " 1867	3 00
	$13,152 97

Money paid by order of the Selecumen	$12,058 56
In Treasury March 1st 1876	1,094 41

As the Selectmen's Report will specify the items for the orders given on the Treasurer, it is not expedient for them to be given in this report, as the orders are all on file in the Treasurer's office to which any reference required may be made.

ORRIN F. JAMES, *Town Treasurer.*

Having examined the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer of the town of Thornton for the year ending March 1st, 1876, we find them orrectly cast and porperly vouched.

HEROD FIFIELD,
MIRON J. HAZELTINE. } *Auditors.*

Liquor Agent's Report.

Amount of Liquor sold	$645 19
" " bbls.Kegs and Jugs sold	10 53
	$655 72
Amount of Liquor on hand	111 30
" bbls. Demijohn, Kegs, mearures etc.,	8 75
The whole amount received	$775 77
Amonnt paid out	561 01
In agents hands profit	$214 76

C. H. WEEKS. *Lipuor Agn't.*

SCHOOL REPORT.

In making this annual report of our schools, your committee is well aware that whatever suggestions or recommendations may be submitted for your consideration, will be hastily read, and soon forgotten. More able minds than mine have labored in vain to awaken an interest in, and arouse the public mind to a sense of the weighty obligations connected with this department of life's duties; and yet it may be seen at a glance, that among the most sacred duties of life, are those of moulding the character and shaping the destiny of our children. Too much care cannot exist in selecting the teachers of our common schools. While we admit that intellectual qualifications are an indispensible requisite for a successful instructor; let us remember that the child by beholding, is liable to be changed into the image of the teacher, and consequeutly moral principle and uprightness of character, should be carefully regarded in the selection of those to whom we commit the training of childhood and youth.

The school houses in town should be replaced by new ones, if possible; if not, they should be sufficiently repaired to protect the health of scholars and teachers. They are totally unfit for use in the winter season; consequently, most of our school money is from necessity, expended during the warm weather, when a portion of the scholars cannot be spared from the farm, and, besides this, these delapilated walls, borken windows, naked laths and open jointed floors, unfavorably effect the young mind, and tend to roughness of character and slackness in future duties of life. The necessity for improvements in our schools stares us in the face. There should be more uniformity in text books, and an introduction of suitable illustrative apparatus. There is not a wall map, chart, or book of reference the property of any school in town; and in some districts there is not a proper supply of blackboards. The world moves, and in good enterprises it is best to keep pace with it. Our schools during the school year just entered, taken as a whole, have been as successful as could be expected with the disadvantages that exist. The prudential committee have been quite fortunate in securing the services of competent teachers, and the scholars are generally well-disposed.

District No. 1.

The school appeared well at the commencement, but on account of contageous diseases among the scholars, it closed abruptly, without an examination. It was doubtless as successful as could be expected considering the interruption by sickness, and the brevity of the term. The second and third terms were taught by Miss Ardell W. Chase, a teacher of experience and good ability. There were some good classes in this school, and their recitations at examination were a credit both to them and their teacher.

District No. 2.

The first term was taught by Miss Winnie R. Dowe, a teacher of good intellectual attainments and firm decision of character. The school promised well at the commencement; your committee was not present at the closing examination, not being notified of the time that the school was to close; but from competent judges who were present, have received a good report. The second term was taught by Miron J. Hazeltine, Esq., whose reputation as an able instructor is too well known for him to need any commendation from me. Mr. Hazeltine made use of a valuable set of Cornell's outline maps, and also, of Payson & Dunton's writing charts, (his own private property) which contributed much to the benefit of the school. The closing examination was very interesting and perfectly satisfactory to your committee.

District No. 3.

But one term of 8 weeks taught by Miss Julia A. Foss, who had secured the confidence of the distrtct by her efforts in this school a previous term. Both teacher and scholars seemed to be interested in the work before them, and thereby success was secured.

District No. 4.

The first term was taught by Mrs. Laura O. Johnson. The school was small, and the scholars quite young. Mrs. Johnson was very faithful to these little scholars, and the improvement all that could be required.

The second term was taught by Miss Ida M. Morrill, a teacher of good ability. Good order was maintained and the improvenent was commendable.

District No. 5.

Both terms taught by Miss S. A. Philips. Miss Philips has taught this school four consecutive terms; and having the comfidence of the scholars, and co-operation of the parents quite generally it has become one of the best disciplined schools in town. The instruction was thorough, and the scholars evinced a good knowledge of the respective branches to which they had attended. The improvement of this school during the last two years, affords another evidence of the advantage of employing a good teacher a succession of terms.

District No. 6.

Teacher both terms, Miss Fred H. Evans. This is an excellent school, and the scholars for their good behavior and strict attention to their studies, are entitled to emphatic commendation. Miss Evens is an experienced teacher, and the school gave general satisfaction.

District No. 7.

One term of seven weeks, taught by Mrs. Olive A. Weeks, a teacher whose reputation is well established as a disciplinarian and thorough instructor. In the closing examination the classes showed commendable improvement.

District No. 8.

The first term was taught by Miss Nellie Walker. This was Miss Walker first effort at school teaching, and all was done in her power to make her first effort a success. This is one of the most advanced schools in town, and the teacher would have been more successful if her lot had fallen in some other district. The second term was taught by Miss Leninia E. Melnen, a teacher well qualified for the task; possessing keenness of perception, and aptness to teach. The examination exercises showed conclusive evidence of faithfulness on the part of both teachers and scholars.

District No. 9.

One term of 15 weeks, taught by Miss Dora P. Young. The teacher had the confidence of the scholars, and co-operation of the parents. The disipline was firm. the instruction thorough, and everything moved like clock work. The school was a perfect success.

District No. 11.

But one term of 7 weeks taught by Miss Olive Gilman. This was an excellent school. The closing examination gave conclusive evidence of untiring faithfulness on the part of both teacher and scholars. In a most thorough examination of an advanced class in arithmetic, in which each scholar was required to answer separately, but one question failed to receive a prompt and correct answer.

District No. 12.

One term of 10 weeks taught by Mrs. B. L. Peaslee. The relation between teacher and scholars appeared to be very pleasant. Good order was maintained and the improvement was all that could be reasonably expected.

Respectfully Submitted.

LEWIS PHILLIPS.

S. S. Committee.

Thornton, March 1, 1876.